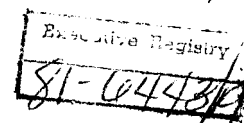


SECRET



## THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

WASHINGTON, D. C. 20505

National Intelligence Officers

NFAC 5303-81

21 August 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence  
Deputy Director of Central Intelligence

VIA: Chairman, National Intelligence Council

FROM:

Acting National Intelligence Officer for Western Europe

SUBJECT: Proposal for Presidential Interview on West German Television

1. Herr Lothar Loewe, of West German TV, has asked that he be granted an interview with President Reagan on topics related to arms control and the defense of Europe.

2. Herr Loewe is a senior correspondent for West German TV in the United States, and has long been a valued contact of a host of US officials; at the same time, he enjoys high-level access to the West German leadership, including Chancellor Helmut Schmidt.

In 1974, he was one of the first West German correspondents admitted to East Germany, but his candid and critical reporting led to his expulsion by the East German authorities after some eighteen months. Recently, Loewe took it upon himself to dispute the leading spokesmen of the anti-US feelings in West Germany by writing a strong defense of the US and of NATO to Der Spiegel, the weekly news magazine which distinguishes itself by its anti-US and anti-NATO vitriol.

3. We believe that a Presidential interview with Herr Loewe could be extremely helpful to US interests in Europe, and at the same time assist Chancellor Schmidt in coping with anti-TNF sentiments in his own party and in his shaky coalition government. The President would present a forceful and articulate exposition of American policy, which we believe would be extremely beneficial to our own goals, as well as assisting our European friends and allies.

4. Herr Loewe is ideally suited to this task, and given his stature in Europe, he would undoubtedly command a wide and respectful audience.

SECRET

SUBJECT: Proposal for Presidential Interview  
on West German Television

NFAC 5303-81

5. It is my understanding that this proposal has been raised with the State Department, which supports it and has forwarded a favorable recommendation to the Secretary of State.

6. I share the view that such an interview, if granted, would be very much in the national interest. Consequently, I recommend that if there is a suitable opportunity for you to do so, you favorably endorse this proposal to the President.



25X1

SUBJECT: Proposal for Presidential Interview on  
West German Television

NFAC 5303-81

DISTRIBUTION:

- 1 - DCI
- 1 - DDCI
- 1 - ER
- 1 - DD/NFA
- 1 - NFAC Registry
- 1 - VC/NIC
- 1 - AC/NIC
- 1 - C/NIC
- 1 - OPA/WE